



A COLLABORATIVE NETWORK

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Florist, Plant Shops & Nurseries – Green Business Tip Sheet

[Support Community Solar through SJC's CS partnership with Solar Landscape](#)

<p>#1 Reduce water consumption</p>	<p>Use 55 gallon rain water barrels that collect water from the greenhouse. The rain water can be used before using city water to water earthboxes and plants. The use of drip irrigation can save over 25% of water used in overhead irrigation and results in less fertilizer use and soil erosion. Irrigation & Stormwater can be collected through drainage pipes that feed into ponds for irrigating the property. Rain barrels buyers guide. Seeds of Hope provides education in hydroponics, aquaponics, composting, vermicomposting, rain water harvesting, earthbox container gardening and greenhouse management. seedsofhope14@gmail.com</p>
<p>#2 Compost Plant waste</p>	<p>Compost all unsold plants or waste left over after creating flower arrangements. Reuse potted soil for future gardening. Community Compost Company collects waste and partners with compost facilities in the Hudson Valley to process the materials. Their soil products division, Hudson Soil Co., sells the finished compost in bags and bulk to garden centers, home gardeners and landscaping companies. https://www.communitycompostco.com/</p>
<p>#3 Reduce electricity usage</p>	<p>Use LED lighting in all buildings and install motion sensor lighting to eliminate the need to have lights on all night long, making energy usage more efficient. Use electric golf carts for employees to get around and batteries are</p>



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	charged by solar panels or through electric charging stations.
#4 Stormwater management	Provide rain gardens, bioswales and other green infrastructure to reduce stormwater runoff. A property with native plants also requires less water and soil maintenance than one with non-natives. Green infrastructure manual.
#5 Community and employee wellness programs	Provide community gardens to feed the employees and their families while educating them in good nutrition and gardening programs.
#6 Replace hazardous pesticides, herbicides, etc. with natural methods/products	Use more sustainable materials that are less toxic to the environment for plant care.